



## REMARKS

This Amendment is being submitted in direct response to the content of the outstanding Office Action dated December 1, 2005, wherein claims 4 and 5 were indicated as containing allowable subject matter.

As a consequence, claim 1 has been amended to include all of the limitations of cancelled claim 4 and the dependency of claim 5 has been amended accordingly.

Furthermore, new claim 6 is being submitted herewith to further distinguish the Applicant's claimed construction from that taught and described by the current references of record (Buselmeier and Stanish).

In particular, neither the Buselmeier nor the Stanish patents teach or suggest an improved A-V dialysis graft construction that includes a continuous length of polymer tubing having a reduced diameter intermediate portion that comprises a gradually diminishing segment followed by a gradually expanding segment; and, wherein the length of polymer tubing has a generally uniform inside diameter over a substantial portion of its length.

Based on the foregoing situation, it is sincerely believed that the claims as now presented clearly define patentable subject matter; and, a formal Notice of Allowance based thereon is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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